

## Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 MOSCOW 09968 170918Z

10

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 SAJ-01

ACDA-05 /064 W

----- 090161

R 170825Z JUL 75

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2304

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMCONSUL LENINGRAD

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LONDON

USMISSION NATO

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE MOSCOW 9968

E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, PO, UR

SUBJ: PONOMAREV HITS PORTUGUESE SOCIAL DEMOCRATS IN  
COMINTERN MEMORIAL ADDRESS

1. SUMMARY: OUR DIPLOMATIC COLLEAGUES IN SEVERAL WEST  
EUROPEAN EMBASSIES WERE IMPRESSED BY A RECENT SPEECH BY  
CPSU SECRETARY PONOMAREV WHICH THEY REGARDED AS AN INDICATION  
OF SOVIET PERCEPTION OF A NEW AND FAVORABLE PHASE FOR  
COMMUNIST GOALS IN WESTERN EUROPE. WE THINK THAT THEIR  
INTERPRETATION DOWNPLAYS THE CONTEXT OF THE SPEECH, WHICH  
WE REGARD AS ANOTHER IN A SERIES OF STATEMENTS BY PONOMAREV  
REFLECTING SOVIET SUPPORT FOR DETENTE AND ANXIETY OVER A  
POSSIBLE RIGHTIST POLITICAL MOVE IN EUROPEAN POLITICS. A  
MAJOR POINT IN SPEECH, HOWEVER, WAS STRONG AND THINLY-VEILED  
ATTACK ON PORTUGUESE LEADER MARIO SOARES AND SOCIAL DEMOCRATS,  
WHICH IS OF INTEREST IN VIEW OF CURRENT CRISIS IN LISBON.  
END SUMMARY.

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 MOSCOW 09968 170918Z

2. OUR COLLEAGUES IN BRITISH, FRG, ITALIAN, AND FRENCH EMBASSIES WERE MUCH STRUCK BY A SPEECH GIVEN BY CPSU SECRETARY B.N. PONOMAREV ON JULY 4 TO A GATHERING OF IDEOLOGICAL OFFICIALS ON THE OCCASION OF THE 7TH COMINTERN CONGRESS. THEY SEIZED UPON PONOMAREV'S PHRASE ABOUT THE "QUALITATIVELY NEW OPPORTUNITIES FOR WINNING A DURABLE PEACE" AND APPARENTLY PUT IT INTO THE CONTEXT OF CURRENT WESTERN EUROPEAN ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL DIFFICULTIES. THEY SAW THE SPEECH AS AN INDICATION THAT THE SOVIETS VIEW CURRENT WESTERN PROBLEMS AS A NEW PHASE FAVORABLE FOR PUSHING COMMUNIST PARTY GOALS. HOWEVER, PONOMAREV'S REVIEW WAS IN THE CONTEXT OF THE GREAT DIFFERENCES BETWEEN 1935 AND 1975, AND HIS REMARKS ON THE CURRENT EUROPEAN SITUATION EXPRESS NOTHING NEW AND ARE IN LINE WITH HIS FREQUENTLY-STATED VIEWS ON THE SUBJECT IN SEVERAL RECENT SPEECHES.

3. AS USUAL, PONOMAREV WARNS OF DANGERS OF OVER-ESTIMATING OR UNDERESTIMATING BARRIERS TO PROCESS OF DETENTE RAISED BY SUCH ENEMIES AS MILITARIST CIRCLES AND MILITARY-INDUSTRIAL COMPLEX. LISTING THE VARIOUS PROBLEMS BESETTING CAPITALIST STATES, HE CLAIMS THAT A DEFINITIVE QUALITATIVE CHANGE IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE GENERAL CRISIS OF CAPITALISM IS PRESENT. AS IN PREVIOUS SPEECHES, HE IS CONCERNED ABOUT THE DANGER OF A POLITICAL MOVE TOWARD THE RIGHT IN EUROPE WHICH IS, BY COMMUNIST DEFINITION, THE PREDICTABLE MOVE BY CAPITALISTS IN DIFFICULTIES. WHAT IS NEW IN 1975, HE CLAIMS, IS THAT THE EFFORTS OF FRATERNAL (COMMUNIST) PARTIES OF CAPITALIST STATES ARE NOW IN A BETTER POSITION TO PREVENT A REACTIONARY "SOLUTION" TO THE WESTERN ECONOMIC CRISIS.

4. WE ARE MORE STRUCK BY THINLY-VEILED ATTACK ON PORTUGUESE SOCIALIST LEADER MARIO SOARES TAKEN BY PONOMAREV IN HIS DISCUSSION OF THE PROBLEM OF FORGING UNITY OF ACTION BETWEEN COMMUNIST PARTIES AND SOCIAL DEMOCRATS. PRAVDA STATES IN THIRD-PERSON STYLE THAT PONOMAREV TOOK NOTE OF THE HARM CAUSED BY ACTIONS OF CERTAIN SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC LEADERS IN CONNECTION WITH EVENTS IN PORTUGAL. HE ALSO SAID THAT THE CPSU RESOLUTELY STRIVES FOR CESSATION OF ANTI-COMMUNIST, ANTI-SOVIET ACTS IN THE POLICY AND PROPAGANDA OF SOCIAL DEMOCRACY AND CRITICIZED THE IDEOLOGY AND POLICY OF SOCIAL DEMOCRATISM. IN AN EARLIER LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 MOSCOW 09968 170918Z

SECTION OF HIS SPEECH, PONOMAREV ALSO COMPLAINED -- IN A CLASSIC INSTANCE OF THE POT CALLING THE KETTLE BLACK -- THAT NATO COUNTRIES ARE EXERTING OPEN AND PROVOCATIVE PRESSURES ON THE DEMOCRATIC FORCES OF PORTUGAL ALTHOUGH THIS "SHAMEFULLY CONTRADICTS" THE ELEMENTARY NORMS OF NONINTERFERENCE IN THE INTERNAL AFFAIRS OF SOVEREIGN STATES.  
STOESSEL

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** POLITICAL STABILITY, POLITICAL PARTIES, POLITICAL SITUATION  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 17 JUL 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** CunninFX  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1975MOSCOW09968  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D750247-0172  
**From:** MOSCOW  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1975/newtext/t19750747/aaaabpva.tel  
**Line Count:** 114  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION EUR  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 3  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** CunninFX  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 20 MAY 2003  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <20 MAY 2003 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <03 OCT 2003 by CunninFX>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
06 JUL 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** PONOMAREV HITS PORTUGUESE SOCIAL DEMOCRATS IN COMINTERN MEMORIAL ADDRESS  
**TAGS:** PFOR, PO, UR, XG, CPSU  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006